



North Dakota

FARM REPORTER

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CATTLE

North Dakota

All cattle and calves as of January 1, 2006 totaled 1.72 million head, up slightly from 1.71 million head on January 1, 2005. This is the first increase in inventory after a four year decline since 1.98 million head on January 1, 2001, and the second lowest total inventory since 1991, which was 1.70 million head.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 970,000 head, were down 1 percent from 980,000 on January 1, 2005 but equal to the number of cows on January 1, 2004. Beef cows, at 937,000, were also down 1 percent from last year but equal to 2004. Milk cows, at 33,000 head, were equal to the last two years.

All heifers 500 pounds and over, at 366,000 head, were down 2 percent from a year ago. Heifers for beef cow replacement, at 157,000 head, were up 7 percent from 147,000 head last year. Heifers for milk cow replacement, at 19,000 head, were up from 18,000 a year ago to the highest January 1 inventory since 20,000 head in 1998. Other heifers not for breeding, at 190,000 head, were down from 210,000 head a year ago and were at the lowest level since January 1, 1993, which was 165,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, at 220,000 head, were down 4 percent from last year to the lowest level since January 1, 1991, which was 210,000 head. Calves under 500 pounds, at 105,000 head, were up from last year's 70,000 head and were the highest since January 1,

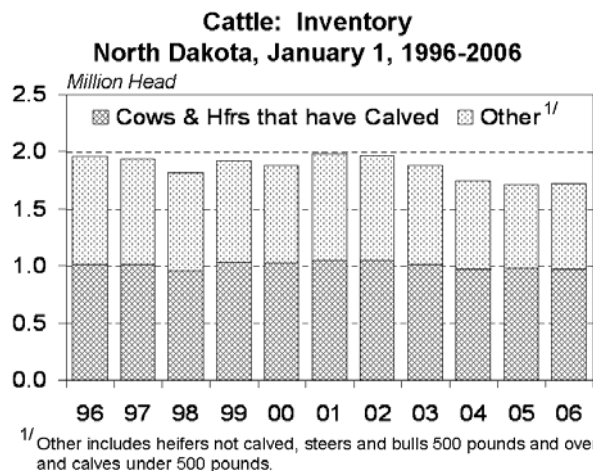
2003 when 116,000 head were on hand. All cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, at 60,000 head, were equal to a year ago, which was the lowest level since January 1, 1991 when 50,000 head were on feed. The 2005 calf crop is estimated at 930,000 head, down from 2004's calf crop of 960,000 head. This is the lowest since the 1992 calf crop of 920,000 head.

United States

All cattle and calves as of January 1, 2006, totaled 97.1 million head, 2 percent above the 95.4 million on January 1, 2005. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.3 million, were up 1 percent from the 41.9 million on January 1, 2005. Beef cows, at 33.3 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Milk cows, at 9.06 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2005.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2006, and the change from January 1, 2005, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 20.0 million, up 2 percent; beef replacement heifers, 5.90 million, up 4 percent; milk replacement heifers, 4.28 million, up 4 percent; and other heifers, 9.80 million, up slightly.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.9 million, up 3 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 15.6 million, up 2 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 14.1 million, up 3 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 28.2 million, up 2 percent. The 2005 calf crop was estimated at 37.8 million head, up 1 percent from 2004. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, up slightly from 2004.



Cattle and Calves: Inventory, Calf Crop and Cattle on Feed North Dakota and United States, January 1, 2005-2006

Class	North Dakota		United States ^{1/}	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	1,000 Head
All Cattle and Calves	1,710	1,720	95,438	97,102
Cows and Heifers That Calved	980	970	41,920	42,311
Beef Cows	947	937	32,915	33,253
Milk Cows	33	33	9,005	9,058
Heifers 500 Pounds and Over	375	366	19,573	19,978
For Beef Cow Replacement	147	157	5,691	5,905
Expected to Calve ^{2/}			3,496	3,574
For Milk Cow Replacement	18	19	4,118	4,278
Expected to Calve ^{2/}			2,815	2,890
Other Heifers	210	190	9,763	9,795
Steers 500 Pounds and Over	230	220	16,476	16,923
Bulls 500 Pounds and Over	55	59	2,219	2,263
Calves Under 500 Pounds	70	105	15,250	15,626
Calf Crop ^{3/}	960	930	37,505	37,780
Cattle on Feed	60	60	13,745	14,132

1/ Totals may not add due to rounding. 2/ Replacement heifers expected to calve during the year, published at U.S. level only. 3/ Preceding year.

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SHEEP AND GOATS

North Dakota

All sheep and lamb inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2006 totaled 104,000 head, down 1 percent from the previous year's 105,000 head. This is the second smallest flock since records began in 1920.

Breeding sheep inventory decreased 5,000 head to 76,000, the second lowest level since records began in 1905. Ewes one year old and older, at 59,000 head, were down 4,000 head from the previous year. Rams, at 2,000 head, were unchanged from the previous two years. Replacement lambs totaled 15,000 head, down 1,000 head from a year earlier. Market sheep and lambs totaled 28,000 head, up from 24,000 head on January 1, 2005. Only 1,000 head were mature sheep (1 year old and older) and the remaining 27,000 were lambs under 1 year. Sixty-five percent of the market lambs weighed 85 pounds or more, down from 70 percent last year. Market lambs by weight group were estimated as follows: 4,500 were under 65 pounds; 5,000 were 65-84 pounds; 8,000 were 85-105 pounds; 9,500 were over 105 pounds.

The 2005 lamb crop totaled 85,000 head, down 3 percent from the previous year but equal to 2003. The 2005 lambing rate was 135 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2005, compared with 149 per 100 ewes in 2004.

Shorn wool production during 2005 was 690,000 pounds, down 7 percent from 2004. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 78,000 head, down from 82,000 head during 2004. Average price paid for wool sold in 2005 was \$0.60 per pound, down from \$0.75 per pound in 2004. The total value of wool was \$414,000, down 26 percent from \$559,000 in 2004.

All meat and other goat and kid inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2006, totaled 2,500 head, up 150 head from January 1, 2005. This is the first time North Dakota goat data are published in the *Sheep and Goats* release. For angora and milk goats, North Dakota data are not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

United States

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1,

2006, totaled 6.23 million head, up 2 percent from both 2005 and 2004. The inventory began increasing in 2005 and has shown two consecutive year to year increases for the first time since 1987 and 1988.

Breeding sheep inventory increased to 4.64 million head on January 1, 2006, up 2 percent from 4.53 million head on January 1, 2005. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.66 million head, were 2 percent above last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2006, totaled 1.59 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2005. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-seven percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 14 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 24 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 35 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings.

The 2005 lamb crop of 4.13 million head, was up 1 percent from 2004. The 2005 lambing rate was 115 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2005, up 2 percent from 2004.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2005 was 37.2 million pounds, down 1 percent from 2004. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.07 million head, down slightly from 2004. The average price paid for wool sold in 2005 was \$0.71 per pound for a total value of 26.3 million dollars, down 12 percent from 29.9 million dollars in 2004.

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2006, totaled 2.83 million head, up 4 percent from 2005. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.35 million head up 4 percent from 2005. All market goats and kids totaled 471,800 head, up 4 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2006 meat and all other goats totaled 2.26 million head, up 5 percent from 2005. Milk goat inventory increased 1 percent to 288,000 head while angora goats were down 1 percent totaling 278,000 head. The 2005 kid crop totaled 1.84 million head for all goats, up 4 percent from 2004.

**Sheep and Lambs: Number by Class and Lamb Crop
North Dakota and United States, January 1, 2005-2006**

Class	North Dakota		United States	
	2005	2006	2005	2006
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>
All Sheep and Lambs	105.0	104.0	6,135.0	6,230.0
Total Market	24.0	28.0	1,602.0	1,591.0
Lambs	23.0	27.0	1,527.9	1,515.0
Under 65 Pounds	3.0	4.5	413.2	416.3
65 to 84 Pounds	4.0	5.0	214.7	210.4
85 to 105 Pounds	7.0	8.0	381.9	362.4
Over 105 Pounds	9.0	9.5	518.1	525.9
Sheep	1.0	1.0	74.1	76.0
Total Breeding	81.0	76.0	4,533.0	4,639.0
Ewes, One Year and Older	63.0	59.0	3,572.5	3,657.0
Rams, One Year and Older	2.0	2.0	190.0	196.0
Replacement Lambs	16.0	15.0	770.5	786.0
Lamb Crop ^{1/}	88.0	85.0	4,096.0	4,125.0
From Breeding Ewes 1 yr + Jan 1 ^{1/}	59.0	63.0	3,609.5	3,572.5
Rate Per 100 Ewes 1 yr ^{1/}	149	135	113	115

^{1/} Preceding year.

**Wool: Production, Price and Value
Selected States and United States, 2004-2005**

State	Sheep Shorn ^{1/}		Weight per Fleece		Production		Price per Pound		Value	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>1,000 Head</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>1,000 Pounds</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>Cents</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>	<i>1,000 Dollars</i>
North Dakota	82	78	9.1	8.8	745	690	75	60	559	414
California	480	500	7.1	7.0	3,400	3,500	82	70	2,788	2,450
Colorado	390	420	6.6	6.3	2,570	2,650	85	63	2,185	1,670
Minnesota	140	150	6.5	6.5	910	970	37	38	337	369
Montana	267	260	9.3	9.6	2,472	2,490	117	98	2,892	2,440
South Dakota	345	330	7.6	7.8	2,610	2,582	72	60	1,879	1,549
Texas	810	800	6.9	6.9	5,600	5,550	102	96	5,712	5,328
Wyoming	390	380	9.3	9.3	3,640	3,530	117	100	4,259	3,530
United States	5,073	5,072	7.4	7.3	37,622	37,232	80	71	29,921	26,272

^{1/} Includes shearing at commercial feeding yards.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota

The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in January is 118 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is unchanged from last year but 3 percent above two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 108 percent of the base, is down 5 percent from January 2005 while the All Livestock and Products Index, at 144 percent, is up 11 percent from last year. January indexes are calculated using preliminary mid-month prices.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices North Dakota and United States, January 2006

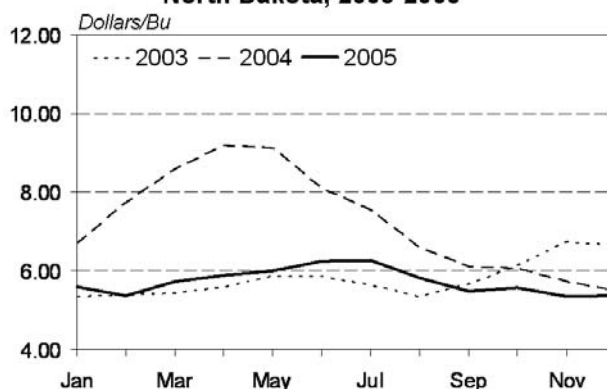
Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	Jan 2005	Dec 2005	Jan 2006	Jan 2005	Dec 2005	Jan 2006
Prices Received	(1990-92 = 100)					
All Farm Products	118	119	118	111	115	112
Crops	114	114	108	102	110	107
Food Grains	115	124	118	114	117	115
Feed Grains & Hay	98	96	92	95	90	90
Oil Bearing Crops ^{1/}	121	109	104	100	102	98
Potatoes & Dry Beans ^{2/}	114	116	103	105	115	115
Livestock	130	142	144	121	120	117
Meat Animals	131	146	147	121	121	121
Dairy Products	131	137	131	122	113	111
Other Livestock Products ^{3/}	113	113	113	122	123	113
Prices Paid	NA	NA	NA	137	143	145
Ratio ^{4/}	NA	NA	NA	81	80	77

1/ Includes non-oil sunflower. 2/ North Dakota includes sugarbeets. 3/ United States excludes wool. 4/ Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid. NA=Not applicable.

United States

The January All Farm Products Index is 112 percent of its 1990-92 base, down 3 percent from the December index but 1 percent above the January 2005 index. The All Crops Index is 107, down 3 percent from December but 5 percent above January 2005. The All Livestock and Products Index, at 117, is down 3 percent from last month and January 2005.

Soybeans: Prices Received North Dakota, 2003-2005



Prices Received by Farmers North Dakota and United States, January 2006

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price Jan 2006
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		Jan 2005	Dec 2005	Jan 2006	Jan 2005	Dec 2005	Jan 2006	
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Wheat, All	Bu	3.50	3.60	3.60	3.43	3.54	3.48	10.30
Durum	Bu	3.60	3.33	3.20	3.64	3.39	3.24	NA
Other Spring	Bu	3.50	3.68	3.70	3.61	3.69	3.67	NA
Winter	Bu	2.66	3.12	1/	3.28	3.46	3.38	NA
Corn	Bu	1.91	1.73	1.80	2.12	1.92	1.96	7.66
Oats	Bu	1.22	1.60	1.50	1.64	1.73	1.67	4.25
Barley, All	Bu	2.13	2.05	2.04	2.41	2.49	2.41	7.16
Feed	Bu	1.46	1.47	1.40	1.65	1.74	1.79	NA
Malting	Bu	2.46	2.21	2.25	2.73	2.70	2.72	NA
Sunflower, All	Cwt	14.00	12.00	11.50	13.70	11.60	11.30	32.30
Oil	Cwt	13.10	11.10	10.20	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-oil	Cwt	17.80	17.10	16.70	NA	NA	NA	NA
Baled Hay, All ^{2/}	Ton	57.00	49.00	49.00	87.80	92.00	91.20	NA
Alfalfa ^{2/}	Ton	63.00	54.00	55.00	94.50	97.70	95.60	NA
Other ^{2/}	Ton	46.00	37.00	39.00	73.30	78.00	79.30	NA
Canola	Cwt	9.95	9.38	NA	NA	NA	NA	26.60
Flaxseed	Bu	8.89	5.82	5.60	8.89	5.82	5.60	15.30
Soybeans	Bu	5.59	5.38	5.20	5.57	5.77	5.51	16.90
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	26.20	14.90	13.90	27.20	18.60	17.50	54.10
Navy	Cwt	24.00	17.80	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Pinto	Cwt	26.70	14.30	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Potatoes, All	Cwt	6.20	7.55	7.05	5.59	6.93	7.00	15.80
Fresh ^{3/}	Cwt	6.25	10.30	NA	5.89	8.96	NA	NA
Processing	Cwt	6.00	6.60	NA	5.34	5.52	NA	NA
Beef Cattle	Cwt	101.00	106.00	115.00	89.40	93.60	94.40	190.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	106.00	120.00	122.00	94.40	99.90	101.00	NA
Cows	Cwt	51.70	50.00	48.00	50.50	47.20	46.50	NA
Calves	Cwt	126.00	137.00	139.00	125.00	134.00	137.00	264.00
Sheep	Cwt	48.00	47.00	NA	53.50	46.90	NA	94.10
Lambs	Cwt	116.00	114.00	NA	114.00	102.00	NA	229.00
Hogs	Cwt	54.30	45.10	NA	53.20	44.30	41.60	115.00

1/ Prices not published to avoid disclosure of individual firms. 2/ Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. 3/ Fresh market prices only, includes table stock. NA=Not applicable.

MILK PRODUCTION

North Dakota

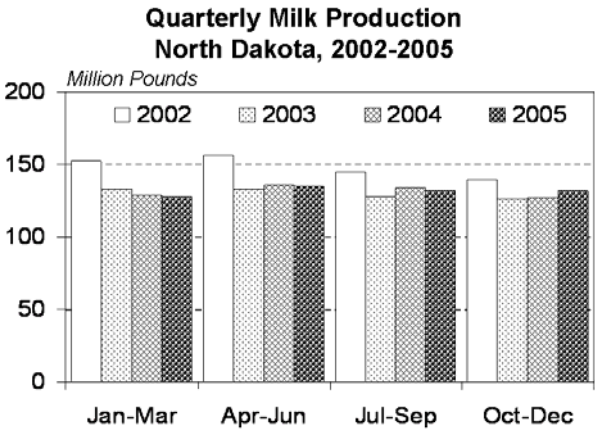
Milk production for the October-December 2005 quarter is estimated at 132 million pounds, up 4 percent from the same period a year earlier. Average milk cows during the quarter, at 33,000 head, were equal to the same period last year but up from 32,000 head for the July-September 2005 quarter. Milk produced per cow during the October-December quarter was 4,000 pounds, up from 3,860 pounds a year earlier, but down from 4,110 pounds during the July-September 2005 quarter.

Milk Cows and Production: Selected States and United States, October - December, 2004-2005					
State	Oct-Dec Milk Cows ^{1/}		Oct-Dec Milk Production ^{2/}		
	2004	2005	2004	2005	Change From 2004
	1,000 Head	1,000 Head	Million Pounds	Million Pounds	Percent
North Dakota	33	33	127	132	3.9
California	1,741	1,770	9,130	9,381	2.7
Minnesota	460	448	1,974	2,006	1.6
New York	651	649	2,843	2,973	4.6
Wisconsin	1,237	1,238	5,418	5,664	4.5
United States	9,019	9,050	41,983	43,605	3.9

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

United States

Milk production in the U.S. during the October-December quarter totaled 43.6 billion pounds, up 3.9 percent from the October-December quarter a year earlier. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.05 million head, 31,000 head more than the same period last year. Production per cow during the quarter averaged 4,818 pounds, up from 4,655 pounds during the same period last year.



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